

October 15, 2012

Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of
Directors, CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

It is without hesitation that I offer this letter of support for Mr. Russell Selken to fill the vacancy on the Board of Directors of the Universal Service Administrative Company as a representative for schools. During my tenure at the FCC as the Director of Education for the National Broadband Plan, I consulted with and interviewed a large number of E-rate stakeholders regarding E-rate program operations and strategic opportunities for program improvement. Mr. Selken was without question the most valuable single individual outside the FCC in helping to develop the chapter's E-rate recommendations. He shared his in-depth knowledge of the program and its participants, ranging from his knowledge of large applicants such as urban school districts and state networks, as well as small applicants situated in the most rural of areas of the country which lack basic connectivity to broadband services.

During my tenure as Deputy Director for Education Technology at the US Department of Education, Mr. Selken again provided tremendous help as a technical and policy resource on issues relating to state and local technology and networking. He has a unique ability to consider policy issues as they relate to school district administrators, teachers and students, while also looking at the procedural and national implications.

Mr. Selken has a unique background and skill-set that will enable him to bring significant insight on a variety of E-rate matters to the USAC Board. His work with the State E-rate Coordinators Alliance ("SECA"), the State Consortium Group, the California K12 High Speed Network, and the California Public Utilities Commission affords him knowledge and understanding of complex regulatory issues and experience observing how the E-rate program plays out at a national level. His work at a local California educational agency – the Butte County Office of Education, an agency which educates high risk youth and students with special education needs - allows him to directly observe how the E-rate funded services ultimately affect classroom teachers and students. I believe this combination of skills and experience are critically needed on the USAC Board to successfully navigate USAC and the E-rate program in the upcoming years.

I strongly encourage and recommend the appointment of Mr. Selken to the USAC Board of Directors on behalf of schools.

Sincerely,



Steve Midgley
Managing Partner
Mixrun, LLC